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provided, to be distributed in due time for their perusal. For apparent reasons, copies of the scriptures without notes are to be distributed. Though it must be admitted, that separate tracts, notes, and sermons, are of great importance, and the perusal of them as well by the learned as the unlearned, are highly conducive to the right understanding, the meaning, scope, and design of the inspired writers.

It is to be presumed, that curiosity, and also a desire to obtain still greater improvements in scriptural knowledge, have prompted every Presbyterian or Dissenting Minister to lay out as much of their additional Regium Donum as would purchase the Rev. Dr. Campbell's Preliminary Dissertations, and his Translations of the Four Gospels, from the original Greek. This is allowed by competent judges to be superior to any translation they have seen. It is without any comment on the text, and it is written in paragraphs, which give the sense much better than dividing them in verses, as in our translation.

Many instances could be given of the real meaning or true translation of the texts that differ from that in use by us. One, for instance, is in the Lord's Prayer; instead of "lead us not into temptation," he renders it "abandon us not to temptation;" which he supports in the notes.

It is now offered to the mature consideration of the Bible Society, if it would not be proper to print a number of said translations without notes, (comment they have not any,) and let such as chuse to purchase, have them at prime cost, as also some practical discourses and sermons such as Jortin's and Clarke's. Even these, were our people deprived of the improvement by others, are copious, rational, interesting, and explanatory; almost on every

subject. If those sermons were printed in small volumes, so as to come cheap, many sets would be bought up by individuals and reading societies in the country, and thereby much knowledge and practical improvement and information would be obtained.

B. AND H.,  
MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY.  
*Ballymoney, Jan. 1, 1813.*

*For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.*

#### ESSAY ON CONJUGAL LOVE.

HOW can men be unkind to their wives? It makes my flesh creep to think sometimes that this is the case. What! man placed the guardian protector, solace over the helpless, the weak, the frail! Does not all nature rise up in vindication of suffering imbecility? Every unkind look, as well as every unkind word, is a violation of the law of kindness which enjoins to protect the weak; and as conscience speaks an upbraiding as well as hortative language, in every bosom, every violation of this law meets, no doubt, its due upbraidings there; I mean in every bosom that has not, by long practising in unkindness, obliterated the sensitive powers. When this is done, and the heart, formed to sensibility in its original creation, becomes calloused over completely, then the law of cruelty is established: man loses the gentle susceptibility of his nature, those fine feelings which are the organs and instruments of that refined pleasure which belongs to the exquisite texture of the human mind. When we estimate what a change is thus wrought, from the feelings of a God, to the insensibility and brutal fury of a demon, shall we not deprecate the smallest departure from this heaven of enjoyment,

to a hell of foul passions, discord, and deformity. But some men will say in excuse "She provoked me; you do not know what a vixen she is, although to outward show so mild and gentle she be." Let us examine this. I do not agree with the satyr-ist,

"Nemo majus gaudet vindicta quam fœmina."

If he had said, "None more delights in revenge than the weak mind," I subscribe to the sentiment, because little passions are the offspring of little minds; but these are by no means appropriate or peculiar to females; for amongst the millions that fortune or Providence cast together, there are perhaps as many weak minds on the one side as on the other. Proof of this is found in their minds being prone to little passions, animosities, jealousies, resentments, and retaliations. In every human pair, whoever has most understanding, that one takes the lead and bears rule, as infallibly as man, who, having a feeble bodily frame and physical powers, yet, by virtue of his superior understanding, sits on the neck of the elephant, and rules it subservient to his pleasure. I own that sometimes the human brute is not so tractable as the elephant, but the creature of superior intellect watches, and seizes its opportunity, and the inferior, becoming subject by degrees, bends the stubborn neck. But let us put the case, that (as is most desirable) there is little or no difference of intellect; then, if there be talent and mutual good disposition, what harmony! Where, in the whole compass of musical composition, shall we find words charming enough to convey the idea of the conjugal attractions, of that sweetness of condescension which inclines two people to plan one another's happiness, to lie in wait for opportunities of mutual partici-

pation of delight? Here is Paradise restored to its pristine state of happiness. Man in the garden ruling over the creatures, but principally over his own passions, and making all his talents subservient to the ends of his creation, when in his primeval state the Deity surveyed his newly finished work, and saw that it was good. That certainly must be the state approaching nearest to perfection, which contributes most to the sum of the happiness of our fellow creatures, our partners in creation. And where shall this model be found, or sought for, except in that charming reciprocation of kindness, of tenderness and love, which belongs to the conjugal state?

A.S.

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*For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.*

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AN EXTRACT FROM L'HISTOIRE DE L'ANARCHIE DE POLOGNE, A POST-HUMOUS WORK OF MONSIEUR DE RULHIÈRE, TO WHICH THE INSTITUTE AT PARIS PROPOSED TO GIVE THE GREAT HISTORICAL PREMIUM; CONTAINING THE DESTRUCTION OF THE OTTOMAN FLEET AT TCHESME, AND THE EXTRAORDINARY CHARACTER OF THE TURKISH ADMIRAL, HASSAN.

NOTWITHSTANDING the disappointment and fatigue which the small Russian squadron, consisting of three ships of the line and two frigates, under Admiral Elphinston, had experienced, he was still cruising in search of the Ottoman fleet, when he fell in with six Turkish ships of the line, lying off Napoli. These were a part of the grand fleet, ten of which had been despatched to keep the Greek islands in subjection, four had gone into Napoli with troops and ammunition, and the remainder were waiting for their return.